



USDA – National
Agricultural Statistics
Service, Tennessee
Field Office

Weekly Weather and Crop Bulletin



Cooperating with
Tennessee Department
of Agriculture

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Week Ending April 2, 2006

CORN PLANTING UNDERWAY

Some of the State’s farmers used last week’s warm weather to begin planting corn. Continued warm conditions combined with the moisture that fell this past weekend should allow for good seed germination. Winter wheat was rated in mostly fair-to-good condition with damage from insects or disease rated none-to-light. Wheat was jointing slightly ahead of the normal pace, and farmers were able to make their top dressing applications on schedule. Apple trees were budding and blooming a few days ahead of normal and were rated in mostly fair-to-good condition. The peach crop was also developing ahead of schedule; however, a short burst of cool weather caused bud loss in a few areas. Nurseries were busy with planting activities as well as digging and shipping. Hay producers used last week to make herbicide and fertilizer applications. Pastures were in mostly fair-to-good condition but should improve with the recent precipitation. Hay was rated mostly fair-to-good condition. Cattle were rated in mostly good condition with hay stocks in mostly short-to-adequate supply.

There were 5 days considered suitable for fieldwork. As of Friday, topsoil moisture levels were rated 12 percent short, 83 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Subsoil moisture levels were rated 1 percent very short, 15 percent short, 79 percent adequate, and 5 percent surplus. Temperatures across Tennessee last week averaged several degrees below normal for the first part of the week, but quickly rebounded to above normal by the middle of the week. Rainfall averaged below normal for the week over far northeastern portions of the State, but above normal elsewhere.

CROP PROGRESS: Through April 2, 2006					CONDITION: On March 31, 2006					
Crop	This Week	Last Week	2005	Five Year Avg.	Item	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					Percent					
Winter Wheat – Jointed	47	n/a	47	42	Winter Wheat	1	2	28	50	19
Winter Wheat – Top Dressed	88	n/a	83	89	Apples	2	10	28	56	4
Corn – Planted	5	n/a	6	14	Hay	4	12	37	42	5
Apples – Budding or Beyond	68	n/a	65	62	Pastures	2	16	41	35	6
Apples – Blooming or Beyond	30	n/a	24	27	Cattle	2	8	28	54	8
Peaches – Budding or Beyond	88	n/a	83	83						
Peaches – Blooming or Beyond	70	n/a	59	53						

n/a = Not Available

County Agent Comments

- “The wheat crop is coming along great. There have been no reports of any serious insect or disease problems at this time.”

Tim Smith, Dyer County
- “The early warm up in recent weeks initiated peach bloom, but the more recent cold weather has taken its toll on the buds.”

J. Brian Signaigo`, Chester County
- “February and early March were dry, which slowed the establishment of clover renovation in pastures and hay ground.”

Ken Burrress, Wayne County
- “Cool weather during mid-March has delayed pasture “green-up” and available grazing.”

Chris Ramsey, Sullivan County

This is the first issue of the Tennessee *Weekly Weather & Crop Bulletin* for the 2006 crop season. This bulletin is released weekly throughout the crop season ending around mid-November. It is based on reports received from Extension agents with the University of Tennessee Extension and local cooperators. It can be accessed each Monday afternoon shortly after 3:00 CDT at our website <http://www.nass.usda.gov/tn>.

TEMPERATURES AND PRECIPITATION
For week ending: April 1, 2006 (with comparisons)

LOCATION	TEMPERATURE				PRECIPITATION				GDD BASE 60F Since April 1	
	Week Ending April 1, 2006				Current Week 04/01/06	Rain Days	Current Since January 1	Departure From Normal		
	HI	LO	AVG	DFN					Total	DFN
Ames_Plantation	84	24	59	3	0.08	3	16.14	2	23	19
Tri-City_RGNL_A	75	23	51	-1	0.32	1	8.82	-1.77	4	4
Brownsville_TN	82	31	60	4	0	0	14.33	0.19	19	17
Chattanooga/Lov	82	28	58	4	1.52	2	10.39	-5.68	15	13
Clarksville_Sew	82	29	57	6	0.1	1	11.51	-2.31	6	4
Cookeville	78	24	52	1	0.38	1	13	-2.37	5	5
Covington	82	33	58	4	0.23	1	14.15	0.11	17	15
Crossville_AP	73	25	54	4	0.98	1	12.39	-2.98	3	3
Dayton	79	25	55	1	1.13	1	9.65	-6.72	8	6
Dickson_AG	81	26	57	4	0.35	1	12.39	-1.79	6	4
Dover_1W	80	29	56	4	0.07	1	11.88	-2.36	10	8
Dyersburg	81	39	60	5	0.22	1	13.69	0.55	18	14
Erwin_1W	76	26	52	3	0.32	1	9.6	-2.19	5	3
Huntingdon_Wate	80	29	56	3	0.04	1	12.25	-1.83	12	10
Jackson_Exp_Stn	82	35	59	5	0.03	1	14.03	0.43	17	15
Kingston_AG	79	25	53	2	0.59	1	13.37	-3.05	4	4
Knoxville_AP	80	26	57	4	0.38	1	9.64	-3.96	12	12
Lewisburg	81	23	54	2	0.49	1	13.29	-1.63	13	11
Lexington_TN	81	33	57	3	0.24	1	12.6	-0.91	13	13
Linden	82	28	57	4	1.12	2	14.1	-1.23	12	10
Martin	79	35	57	4	0.27	2	15.61	2.03	11	9
Mc_Minnville_Tn	82	25	59	5	0.84	3	11.94	-2.82	16	14
Memphis_AG	86	27	58	1	0.2	3	15.96	2.11	20	15
Milan	81	28	57	4	0.35	3	13.75	-0.21	14	12
Murfreesboro_5N	81	25	53	0	0	0	15.1	1	9	5
Nashville_Metro	81	28	58	4	0.31	1	12.16	-0.38	15	13
Newcomb	79	24	51	2	0.39	1	11.3	-2.89	3	3
Oneida	76	24	51	2	0.41	1	11.78	-2.41	3	1
Portland_TN	77	28	52	0	0.3	2	12.81	-0.81	6	6
Pulaski_Water_P	82	26	54	-3	0.5	3	14.66	-1.08	13	10
Savannah_6SW	84	28	56	-2	0.26	1	14.68	-1.14	14	12
Sparta_TN	79	25	57	5	0.65	3	15.09	0.2	10	10
Springfield	78	26	52	1	0.15	3	11.74	-1.43	7	7
Springhill	80	28	55	4	0.47	2	13.2	-1.77	11	9
Union_City	79	27	55	2	0.45	2	15.44	1.93	8	6
Waynesboro_TN	79	26	55	3	0.72	3	16.03	-0.12	11	9

DFN = Departure From Normal (Using 1961-90 Normals Period). GDD = Growing Degree Days.
Precipitation Days = Days with precip of 0.01 inch or more. Precipitation (rain or melted snow/ice) in inches.
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